

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Previously presented): A method of voice communication comprising:
providing an earpiece having a housing and a plurality of microphones within the earpiece housing, the earpiece adapted for being worn by a user;
selecting at least one of the plurality of microphones within the housing of the earpiece to detect a selected voice communication by a person other than the user;
receiving the selected voice communication of a first language from the selected microphones;
translating the selected voice communication from the first language to a second language by an intelligent control, the second language different from the first to create a translated voice communication; and
transducing the translated voice communication at a speaker within the earpiece unit.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the plurality of microphones is a directional microphone.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising transmitting the voice communication of a first language to a translation station and receiving the translated voice communication from the translation station.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of translating is performed by a processor disposed within the earpiece.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of microphones includes a front facing microphone, a rear facing, and a side facing microphone.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the second language is English.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the first language is English and the second language is different from the first language.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the earpiece is nonocclusive.

Claim 9 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of selecting is manually selecting.

Claim 10 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of selecting is automatically selecting.

Claim 11 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising scanning each of the plurality of microphones.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): A method of voice communication comprising:
providing an earpiece having a housing and having ~~a plurality of microphones~~ at least one microphone within the housing and a speaker within the housing, the earpiece adapted for being worn ~~by a user~~ on a user's head;
directing the at least one microphone within the earpiece housing in a first direction;
~~selecting using the at least one microphone one of the plurality of microphones~~ of the earpiece to detect a selected voice communication;
receiving the selected voice communication of a first language from the ~~selected~~ at least one microphone within the earpiece housing;
transmitting the selected voice communication from the earpiece unit to a translation device using a short range transmitter;
translating the selected voice communication at the translation device from the first language to a second language using an intelligent control, the second language different from the first to create a translated voice communication;
transmitting the translated voice communication from the translation device to the earpiece unit using a short range transmitter;
transducing the translated voice communication at the speaker within the earpiece on the user's head.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): A method of voice communication comprising:
providing an earpiece having a housing and having a plurality of microphones within the housing, the earpiece adapted for being worn by a user;
selecting one of the plurality of microphones of an earpiece unit to detect a selected voice communication;
receiving the selected voice communication of a first language from the selected microphones;
transmitting the selected voice communication from the earpiece unit using a short range transmitter;
receiving the selected voice communication with a short range receiver and sending the selected voice communication over a communications channel to a remote unit;
translating the selected voice communication at the remote unit from the first language to a second language using an intelligent control, the second language different from the first to create a translated voice communication;
sending the translated voice communication from the remote unit over the communications channel;
transmitting the translated voice communication to the earpiece unit using a short range transmitter; and
transducing the translated voice communication at a speaker within the earpiece housing.

Claims 14-20 (Cancelled).

Claim 21 (Currently amended): A method of voice communication, comprising:
providing a nonocclusive earpiece housing and having a plurality of inputs for receiving voice communication and a speaker, the nonocclusive earpiece housing adapted for being worn by a user on the user's head;
receiving the voice communication from at least one of the inputs;
translating the voice communication to a different language using an intelligent control to create a translated voice communication;
transducing the translated voice communication at the speaker of the nonocclusive earpiece.

Claim 22 (Previously presented): The method of claim 21 wherein at least one of the inputs is a bone conduction sensor.

Claim 23 (Previously presented): The method of claim 22 wherein the nonocclusive earpiece further includes a processor.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the processor is adapted to perform translation of the voice communication to the translated voice communication.

Claim 25 (Currently amended): A method of voice communication comprising:
providing an earpiece having a housing and a plurality of microphones within the earpiece housing, the earpiece adapted for being worn by a user on a head of the user;
selecting at least one of the plurality of microphones within the housing of the earpiece to detect a selected voice communication;
receiving the selected voice communication of a first language from the selected microphones;
electronically translating the selected voice communication from the first language to a second language, the second language different from the first to create a translated voice communication; and
transducing the translated voice communication at a speaker.